

The LongPath

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

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How to Join

- * Come to a club meeting;
- * or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)
- * or call Tom Duncan at (256)705-2147

From the President

By Mark Brown, N4BCD

I found the radio ON button a few times this month for some CW copying, NAQP RTTY, and a couple of phone rag-chews. Those rag chews were to flesh out some audio tweaks to microphone EQ, TX bandwidth, and processor levels. I'm thankful to M.D. WA4DXP for the insightful program last month on that topic; it dramatically improved my transmitted signal intelligibility.

The computer rebuild is ongoing. I'm using this laptop hard drive failure episode to make a clean break from Ham Radio Deluxe to one of two logging programs. Right now I'm evaluating Logger32 and DXLab and will pick a winner soon. I'm thankful for LOTW returning my complete log in ADIF format, at least up to my last upload of Oct 31, 2016.

The Hamfest Representative task is taking more time than I realized. Planning meetings only take a few hours, but preparation for and appearances on webcasts take a lot more. There's more behind the scenes stuff too.

When I look back at my paragraphs and realize not much is related to DX, it becomes apparent it's time for a fresh face to lead the club. My mind told me I've done this for 3 years, but my records show it's been four. Time flies when you're having fun. At our upcoming meeting, we'll select a nominating committee to ~~bro~~ identify a candidate to lead our club.

Back to our upcoming Hamfest & Banquet though. This year is shaping up to be one of the best ever. The commercial vendor space is sold out. Likewise, flea market tables are not only sold out, there's a waiting list. The Forum line-up is arguably one of the best & varied line-ups of presenters and topics compared to ANY hamfest. The DX Banquet has an excellent returning guest speaker – Bob Allphin K4UEE,

and a growing list of valuable door-prizes. Word seems to be spreading as witnessed by ticket sales running ahead of prior years and only 9 remaining as these words hit the page.

Our Hamfest, indeed any hamfest, runs on volunteers. Our Huntsville Hamfest has earned the nickname "The World's Friendliest Hamfest" with annual involvement from many local clubs and individuals. HARC members volunteer for a host of functions. HAYLARC's sell tickets. ARES / RACES members staff a booth providing outreach and visibility of local activities to visiting hams. NADXC members also staff a booth to provide card checking and outreach to prospective members. With all that said, I'll say more. I call on each of you to do everything you can to take an active role in the Hamfest, the Banquet, staffing the booth, assisting with move-in/out, talk-in, and the countless other tasks involved with making the event a success for locals & visitors alike.

73,
Mark N4BCD
North Alabama DX Club - President

NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Mark Brown, N4BCD
Vice President	John Stensby, N5DF
Secretary/	Kelley Vann-Johns, W4VPZ
Treasurer	
At-large	Kevin Hibbs, KG4TEI
Directors	Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

July 11th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

By Kelley Johns, W4VPZ—NADXC Secretary/Treasurer

24 members and 1 guest were in attendance at the Golden Corral

The sign-in sheet DX worked reports were reviewed:

Bob KC4TNC LoTW for Chad TT8ES
PSK Gibraltar ZB2TT JT65

Rob KB5EZ Belarus, Greece, Norway, + 12 more DX with JT9 portable

Stephen KK4TJP 7X, TA, 5W, UN, and 4U1WB

Announcements

A Hamfest status report was given: Tom KG4CUY reported that the forum schedule is very nearly filled, and Jim N4KH reported that there are around 6 flea market tables still available.

K4BFT Field Day was discussed. It was pointed out that K8ES, the Delaware Amateur Radio Association changed to the 4F category this year, which changes the field of competitors in 4A. Mark N4BCD reported that the score for K4BFT was still being calculated, but that the final outcome was looking very strong.

Several members mentioned that Woodie Ziegler K8GNM had passed away on Monday night. Kind words were said about our friend and the loss to the ham radio community.

MD WA4DXP announced that Tom KG4CUY's presentation of his OX3 Voltage Regulator Tube was well-received by the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club. The audience quite enjoyed the humor, and several were surprised at the ending. (See the April 2017 issue of our LongPath newsletter for the full article on the topic.)

Banquet tickets are available to purchase in person, or online through our Club's website.

No membership applications have been received.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Program

Our pool of presentations by guys with the last name Smith was exhausted. In May, we had Steve Smith, and in June, Bruce Smith presented. In July, our presenter was MD Smith WA4DXP, who talked about Speech Audio Processing and Tailoring.

(At the end of the program, an informal poll of the club members was conducted to see what TX bandwidth setting ranges were being used; 500-2800 Hz seemed to be the general consensus.)

August Treasurer's Report

By Kelley Johns, W4VPZ

Beginning Balance \$ 4,069.23

Debits

Cash for Ticket Sales Change 100.00

Secretary of State (name reservation) 28.00

Credits

Deposit 134.00

Deposit (PayPal) 367.50

Deposit 266.00

Ending Balance 4,708.73

August Program

Comments by NADXCers involved with Huntsville Hamfest

This month's program highlights the upcoming Huntsville Hamfest. Many of the NADXCers involved in one way or another with bringing the hamfest to you will say a few words about their little piece of the puzzle.

This year marks the first change of hamfest management which did not involve a succession plan—to a great extent the hamfest is planned and will be run by the same people involved last year, less of course Charlie Emerson, N4OKL. Much of the Hamfest Committee's time and energy has been spent determining the size and nature of the void left by Charlie's untimely passing, and then attempting to fill it. Doubtless this will go on in an iterative fashion for several years: there will be trial and error. We hope and believe this year will be the most difficult in that regard, with most of the learning about what not to do or to do differently next time being ladled out by the school of hard knocks.

We'll talk about the dealer show, the

forum lineup (with some detail from NADXC presenters), the flea market, the banquet (only 9 tickets left!), and attempt to answer questions you may have. Check the hamfest web site www.hamfest.org for the dealer lineup, forum schedule, and more.

Get to the Golden Corral around 6:00 pm for dinner, 7:00 for the business meeting, and 7:30 for the hamfest program.



DX Contests for August

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

SARL HF Phone Contest (SSB), 80-20 meters

Aug. 6, 1300Z to 1630Z

Exchange: RST, serial no.

See page 86, Aug. QST and
www.sarl.org.za

SARL HF Digital Contest (DIG), 80-20 meters

Aug. 20, 1300Z to 1630Z

Exchange: RST, serial no.

See page 86, Aug. QST and
www.sarl.org.za

WAE CW DX Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

Aug 12, 0000Z to Aug. 13, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus serial No. See web for QTC rules.

See page 86, August QST and
www.darc.de

YO DX Contest, (CW,SSB), 80-10 meters

Aug. 26, 1200Z to Aug. 27, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T), Serial or YO district

See page 86, August QST and
www.yodx.ro/en/english

SARTG WW RTTY Contest, (RTTY), 80-10 meters

Aug. 19, 0000Z to Aug. 20, 1600Z

Exchange: RST plus Serial No.

See page 86, August QST and
www.sartg.com

CVA DX Contest, (SSB), 80-10 meters

Aug. 26, 2100Z to Aug. 27, 2100Z

Exchange: RS plus category (see rules)

See page 86, Aug. QST and
www.creac.org

Keymen's Club of Japan Contest (CW), 160-6 meters

Aug. 19, 1200Z to Aug. 20, 1200Z

Exchange: RST and prefecture or continent

See page 86, August QST and
www.kcj-cw.com

SARL HF CW Contest (CW), 80-20 meters

Aug. 27, 1300Z to 1630Z

Exchange: RST, serial no.

See page 86, Aug. QST and
www.sarl.org.za

Russian District Award Contest, (CW, SSB), 160-10 meters

Aug. 20, 0800Z to Aug. 21, 0800Z

Exchange: RS(T), Serial or Russian District

See page 86, August QST and
rda-ward.org/rdac1.htm

WAE DX Contest, (SSB), 80-10 meters

Sept. 9, 0000Z to Sept. 10, 2359Z

Exchange: RS, serial no.

See <http://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/referat-conteste/worked-all-europe-dx-contest/en/>

CVA DX Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

Aug. 19, 2100Z to Aug. 20, 2100Z

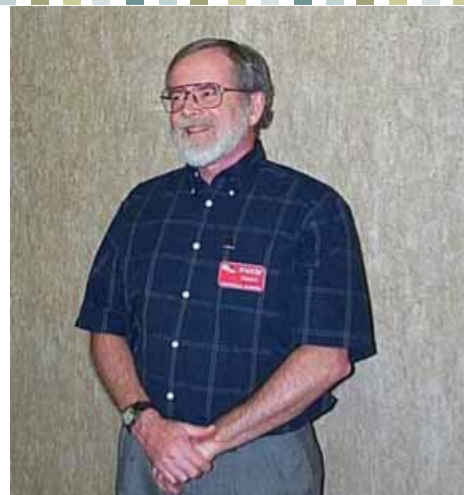
Exchange: RST plus category (see rules)

See page 86, Aug. QST and
www.creac.org

OTHERS:

All Asian DX Contest, Phone

0000Z, Sep 2 to 2400Z, Sep 3



Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware.

Chuck, N4NM

Thanks Contributors

Tom Duncan, KG4CUI

The LongPath Staff has been putting this publication together for quite some time, and each month we are amazed and thankful that our intrepid contributors continue contributing. Take N4NM for example, who has been cranking out DX Contests even longer than the LongPath Staff has been around to mangle them. And NADXC presidents, for their monthly missives.

Thank-you all who keep the LongPath in business. Please don't stop now!

The LongPath Staff

Publisher/Editor:

Tom Duncan, KG4CUI

Departments:

Chuck Lewis, N4NM, DX Contests

Kelley Vann-Johns, W4VPZ, Minutes

Mark Brown, N4BCD, From the President